

HOUSE BILL NO. 518

INTRODUCED BY G. MASOLO

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING A CITY OR TOWN TO CONTRACT IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$50,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN AUTOMOBILE, TRUCK, OTHER VEHICLE, ROAD MACHINERY, OTHER MACHINERY, APPARATUS, APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, OR SUPPLIES WITHOUT PUTTING THE CONTRACT OUT TO BID; ALLOWING A CITY OR TOWN TO CONTRACT IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$50,000 FOR CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR, OR MAINTENANCE WITHOUT PUTTING THE CONTRACT OUT TO BID; AMENDING SECTION 7-5-4302, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 7-5-4302, MCA, is amended to read:

"7-5-4302. Competitive, advertised bidding required for certain purchase and construction contracts. (1) Except as provided in 7-5-4303 or 7-5-4310, all contracts a contract must be entered into by a city or town for the purchase of any automobile, truck, other vehicle, road machinery, other machinery, apparatus, appliances, equipment, ~~or~~ materials, or supplies of any kind ~~in excess of \$20,000~~ in excess of \$50,000 or for construction, repair, or maintenance ~~in excess of \$25,000~~ \$50,000. All contracts entered into by a city or town in excess of \$50,000 must be let to the lowest responsible bidder after advertisement for bids.

(2) The advertisement must be made in the official newspaper of the city or town if there is an official newspaper, and if not, it must be made in a daily newspaper of general circulation published in the city or town if there is a newspaper. If there is no newspaper, the advertisement must be made by posting in three of the most public places in the city or town. The advertisement, if by publication in a newspaper, must be made once each week for 2 consecutive weeks, and the second publication must be made not less than 5 days or more than 12 days before the consideration of bids. If the advertisement is made by posting, 15 days must elapse, including the day of posting, between the time of the posting of the advertisement and the day set for considering bids.

(3) The council may postpone action on any contract until the next regular meeting after bids are

1 received in response to the advertisement and may reject any bids and readvertise as provided in this
2 section."

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4 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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